

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1414

By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Clyde Arthur Jones for his meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Clyde Arthur Jones, who has evinced the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this outstanding Tennessean has rendered sterling service as the Chairperson for the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Tennessee Chapter 2008 Reunion, which took place May 9-13, 2008, in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, this important event celebrates yet another milestone in the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry's storied history, which began with the regiment's organization on November 1, 1869, at Fort McKavett, Texas; the 24th consisted entirely of African-American enlisted personnel who went on to distinguish themselves through unparalleled fortitude and courage in battle, earning for themselves and all the members of the black regiment that would follow them the moniker "Buffalo Soldiers." Clyde Jones is one of the last remaining Buffalo Soldiers, and he proudly carries on their patriotic traditions; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Dayton High School in 1950, Mr. Jones, willing to sacrifice his personal safety and concerns in order to ensure our collective and individual freedom, joined the United States Army I Company; and

WHEREAS, following Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Clyde Jones was sent to the Far East Command in Tokyo, Japan; he fought admirably during the Korean War as one of

the last Buffalo Soldiers, surviving numerous harrowing battles that felled many of his comrades; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, Mr. Jones was honorably discharged from the Army; his valiant efforts earned him the Purple Heart Award; and

WHEREAS, a gifted athlete, Clyde Jones played baseball for the Dayton Wild Cats and the Durrell Tigers from 1950 to 1973; and

WHEREAS, since 1973, Mr. Jones has led the congregation of Hiwassee Presbyterian Church as Minister; he also has served as Associate Minister of the New Century United Methodist Church in Harriman; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Clyde Jones retired from the Tennessee Valley Authority after many years as a Pipe Fitter and Welder; and

WHEREAS, a valuable asset to his community, Mr. Jones has contributed his time and many talents as a member of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regimental Combat Team Association, American Legion Post 232 Campbell Moore, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Plumber and Pipe Fitters Local Union 102 in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Jones epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones, his many professional accomplishments aside, is perhaps most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Jessie Bell Mosley Jones, and his daughters, Theresa Thorpe, Portia Jones, and Chrystal Jones; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Clyde Jones for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Clyde Arthur Jones for his meritorious service to the good people of Tennessee and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.